

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 01893 162228Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-10 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 L-03 H-01 /047 W
-----014471 162233Z /41
O R 162204Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8528
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENSOS AIRES

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BUENOS AIRES FOR LEGAL ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN, PGOV, SHUM, CI
SUBJ: LETELIER/MOFFITT: DEVELOPMENTS MARCH 15/16

REF: SANTIAGO 1830

1. FIRST CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE JUANA CONZALEZ MARCH 15
RECEIVED A REPLY (REPORTEDLY IN THE OPEN MAIL) FROM THE MINISTRY
OF DEFENSE TO HER REQUEST -- MADE NINE DAYS EARLIER -- REPORTEDLY
SOLICITING INFORMATION ON JUAN WILLIAMS AND ALEJANDRO ROMERAL.
GONZALEZ REMAINED TIGHT-LIPPED ON THE CONTENTS, WHICH
ARRIVED THROUGH THE ORDINARY MAIL, SAYING ONLY THAT SHE
IS NOW REQUESTING INFORMATION FROM THE INTERIOR MINISTRY.
USG LAWYER ETCHEBERRY WHO MET WITH JUDGE GONZALEX FOR
THE SECOND TIME MARCH 15, TOLD THE PRESS THAT, AS EXPECTED,
THE DEFENSE REPLY CONTAINED A DENIAL THAT WILLIAMS AND
ROMERAL WERE MEMBERS OF THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES. HE
REVEALED THAT HE HAD ASKED THE JUDGE TO SEND FORMAL
INQUIRIES TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, THE INTERNATIONAL
POLICE AND A THIRD UNIDENTIFIED ORGANIZATION -- ALL
WITH THE TASK OF LEARNING THE TRUE IDENTITIES OF THE
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TWO PERSONS USING THE OFFICIAL PASSPORTS. HE REITERATED
THE U.S. INTEREST IN LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED IN THIS
REGARD AND REPORTED THAT HE HAD PROVIDED GONZALEZ SOME
NEW INFORMATION (UNSPECIFIED).

2. IN SOMEWHAT TERSE TERMS, THIS WEEK'S NEWSMAGAZINE
"QUE PASA" EDITORIALIZES ABOUT THE "LACK OF COMPLETE AND

TIMELY INFORMATION ON THE PART OF THE (GOC) AUTHORITIES".
THE WEEKLY ARGUES THAT THE JUDICIAL PROCESS NOTWITHSTANDING
PUBLIC OPINION SHOULD KNOW FROM THE GOVERNMENT IF THERE
HAVE BEEN IRREGULARITIES OF A POSSIBLE CRIMINAL NATURE.
THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT HAVE TO AWAIT A FOREIGN REQUEST.
CLOSES THE EDITORIAL: "WE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO REMIND OURSELVES
THAT THERE EXISTS AN UNDENIABLE RIGHT TO INFORMATION".
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NNN

Message Attributes

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